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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 AGR-05 L-02 IGA-01 SP-02

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01

PA-01 PRS-01 SAM-01 /056 R

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: PL 480 TITLE I PROGRAM FOR JAMAICA

1. IN NOTE DATED JANUARY 15 JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR INQUIRED RE STATUS PROPOSED DOLS. 1.5 MILLION TITLE I PL 480 PROGRAM. TEXT OF NOTE TOGETHER WITH DEPARTMENT'S REPLY, DATED FEBRUARY 3, FOLLOW BELOW:

A. QTE. TEXT OF JAMAICAN NOTE: BEGIN QTE; THE AMBASSADOR OF JAMAICA PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND HAS THE HONOUR TO ENQUIRE ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE PL 480 TITLE I PROGRAMME FOR JAMAICA FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975.

IT WAS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA THAT SUCH A PROGRAMME WAS APPROVED FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975. NEGOTIATIONS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WERE TO BEGIN IN EARLY DECEMBER 1974 WITH DELIVERY OF THE COMMODITIES TO START LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN THE FIRST PART OF CALENDAR YEAR 1975. SO FAR, NO

AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AND IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING DELIVERY OF COMMODITIES MUST BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 30, 1975.

THE NEED TO FINALIZE THIS AGREEMENT IS OF UTMOST URGENCY AS THE COMMODITIES SUPPLIED UNDER THE 1974 PROGRAMME ARE EXHAUSTED.

THE AMBASSADOR OF JAMAICA AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END QTE.

B. TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE: QTE. THE SECRETARY OF STATE PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMBASSADOR OF JAMAICA AND HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF HIS NOTE DATED JANUARY 15, 1975, CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 1975 PUBLIC LAW 480 TITLE I PROGRAM FOR JAMAICA.

A FINAL DECISION ON PUBLIC LAW 480 ALLOCATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975 HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE, BUT IS EXPECTED SHORTLY. THE AMBASSADOR OF JAMAICA MAY BE ASSURED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS NOTED THE EMBASSY'S CONCERN. THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA WILL BE INFORMED THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN KINGSTON OF ANY ACTION TAKEN REGARDING THIS PROPOSED PROGRAM. END OTE.

2. FYI: WHILE DECISION ON OVERALL PL 480 BUDGETARY LEVEL HAS NOW BEEN MADE, WE HAVE NOT COMPLETED DECISIONS ON INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS. SECTION 55 (A)(5) OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1974 STATES THAT NOT MORE THAN 30 PERCENT OF TITLE I FOOD SALES SHOULD GO TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THOSE ON THE UN'S LIST OF MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES (MSAS). JAMAICA IS NOT ON THE LIST. DESPITE SMALL SIZE JAMAICA PROGRAM WE DO NOT SEE POSSIBILITY INCLUDING IT UNDER NON-MSA 30 PERCENT OF TITLE I FOOD AID. DEPT IS, HOWEVER, EXPLORING WITH CONGRESS THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING JAMAICA PROGRAM WITHIN 70 PERCENT MSA/SOLELY HUMANITARIAN (ON BASIS SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM) AND IS PREPARING JUSTIFICATION FOR LETTER TO APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES. END FYI. KISSINGER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: TEXT, PL 480 TITLE 1, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), DIPLOMATIC NOTES, FOOD ASSISTANCE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 26 FEB 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE043853

Document Number: 1975STATE043853 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: RBMCMULLEN:JS

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750069-0388

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975029/aaaaaifv.tel Line Count: 107 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12 SEP 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by greeneet>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

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Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PL 480 TITLE I PROGRAM FOR JAMAICA TAGS: EAID, JM, US

To: KINGSTON

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006